

REMARKS

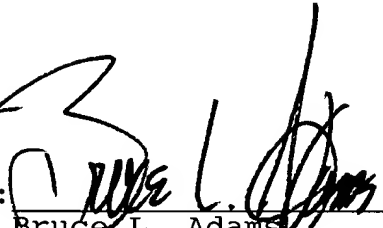
In order to place this application in condition for a complete action on the merits, the specification has been suitably revised to correct informalities and improve the wording. A new abstract has been submitted to replace the original abstract of record. Claims 1-5 have been canceled without prejudice or admission and replaced by new claims 6-25. The newly added claims contain revised versions of the original claims rewritten in formal respects to improve the wording and place them in better conformance with U.S. practice, and new claims added to provide a fuller and more comprehensive scope of coverage. Adequate support for the subject matter recited in the newly added claims may be found in the specification as originally filed.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

Name



Signature

May 11, 2004

Date